



ALL SAINTS

AREA FAITH COMMUNITY



ST. ANDREW'S
FAIRFAX, MN



ST. WILLIBRORD'S
GIBBON, MN



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
WINTHROP, MN

Father Brendan Rolling
Parochial Administrator
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broilling@dn.org

Danette Polzin
Office Manager
507-426-7739
allsaints7739@gmail.com

Kellie Sloom
Area Religious Ed Coordinator
C: 320-583-6755
yesterdayskitchen@gmail.com

AFC Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm **AFC Address:** All Saints AFC, PO Box C, Fairfax MN 55332

AFC Website: www.allsaintsaafc.org

Diocese Website: www.dnu.org

Join Flocknote by visiting flocknote.com/asafc or text allsaints4 to 84576

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATORS

St. Andrew – Karen Guggisberg 507-426-7348

St. Willibrord – Genny Neyers 507-834-6659

St. Francis – Kellie Sloom 320-583-6755

National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-422-4453

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

Please contact Fr. Brendan at least six months ahead of time to plan and prepare for your wedding. No wedding date is final until approved by Fr. Brendan.

BAPTISMS: Please make arrangements for attending a baptism session with Father Brendan anywhere from one to two months prior to the date of the baptism of a child.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of New Ulm:

1-866-670-5163
(Confidential Counseling Services and Referral Information)

LITURGY SCHEDULE: In case of a funeral a regular scheduled morning Mass will be canceled that day.

Monday, Nov 20	NO MASS		
Tuesday, Nov 21	NO MASS		
Wednesday, Nov 22	5:30 PM	Gibbon-Thanksgiving	+Janet Graupman
	7:00 PM	Winthrop-Thanksgiving	+Lorraine Ravnaas
Thursday, Nov 23	8:30 AM	Fairfax-Thanksgiving	+Arline Kiecker
Friday, Nov 24	9:30 AM	Winthrop	+Linda Larson Angst
Saturday, Nov 25	4:30 PM	<i>Reconciliation prior to Mass</i>	
	5:00 PM	Gibbon-Anointing Mass	+Marge Berg
Sunday, Nov 26	8:00 AM	Winthrop-Anointing Mass	+Allan Clobes
	10:00 AM	Fairfax-Anointing Mass	People of the All Saints Area Faith Community

Reflection Question for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

How do I share my gifts? What talent have I been told I have but am afraid to share out in the open?



Readings for the Week of November 19, 2023

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

Reflection meditation:

Invest your God-given talent and you honor God's gift(s) to you. How? Start small and grow your capacity. In Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus says, "Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." Starting small builds character, consistency, and connections that are a foundation for greatness. Think of the famous 6' 6" basketball player, Michael Jordan. Before his growth spurt as a kid, he was less than 5' tall, but he started small and put on height. He started high school basketball on the JV team, but he went all out, learned plays, made shots and moved to varsity. This week be faithful in the small things. Work to improve a skill you have. God has given it to you for some great purpose. You'll know it when you see it. Then Christ says, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come share your master's joy." Speaking of joy. Have a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends. Celebrate the blessings and freedoms God has given us as Americans. Pray for the poor and less fortunate.

Blessings, Fr. Rolling

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Thursday & Friday, November 23rd & 24th, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Bulletin items will need to be in by the end of Tuesday, November 21st. Thanks.

WINTHROP MASS INTENTIONS ARE GETTING LOW. Mass Intentions can be offered for a variety of reasons: thanksgiving, birthday or anniversaries of the living and most commonly for the repose of the soul of a deceased loved one. If you have been thinking you would like to have a Mass intention offered, you can put the request in the collection basket with the name of the person/persons to be prayed for and make a note of whether the person is deceased or living. If you have a specific date in mind, please make note of that as well. Include your financial gift (typically \$10 per Mass) or call the All Saints AFC office or email the office and get the intention scheduled and send in your donation. Thank you!

AREA CALENDAR

AREA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, November 21st, at 5:30 pm in Gibbon

ST. ANDREW'S ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING Tuesday, November 21st, at 7:00 pm in Fairfax with Maintenance Committee meeting starting at 6:30 pm.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING Thursday, November 30th, at 7:00 pm in Winthrop

AREA PARISH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 19 Jean Weinzetl, Mark & Deb Evenson-Huiras Anniv., Bruce & Rita Prigge Anniv.

Nov 20 Paul Clobes, Connie Haas, Wade Werner

Nov 21 Reeve Huiras, Cindy Schweiss

Nov 22 Joe Nachreiner, Angela Kothari

Nov 23 Leander & Mary Nachreiner Anniv., Dory Schreiner, Elizabeth Wiley

Nov 24 Kevin Dreier, Jake Langemo

Nov 25 Joel Wiltscheck

JOIN US EACH WEEK ON WEDNESDAY AT 9:00 PM as we pray the Rosary live on Facebook on the All Saints Area Faith Community page!

Topic for THAT MAN IS YOU men's program – There will be no That Man Is You this week.

GETTING MARRIED. Three couples just signed up for marriage prep! More on the way. Please note the dates for the 2024 PreMarriage program are now posted on the Family Life page of the Diocese of New Ulm, DNU, website. New PreMarriage booklets are at the entrance to all churches.

THANKSGIVING MASS SCHEDULES ARE AS FOLLOWS

11/22/2023, Wednesday, 5:30 pm, Mass, Gibbon, Eve of Thanksgiving

11/22/2023, Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Mass, Winthrop, Eve of Thanksgiving

11/23/2023, Thursday, 8:30 am, Mass, Fairfax, Thanksgiving Day

2023 DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL (DMA)

This Sunday is Commitment Sunday for the 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Watching the video at mass, we are reminded of the good work the DMA is doing through important ministries that parishes are not able to provide on their own. Remember, in supporting the DMA, we contribute to those important ministries in the diocese, but we also support the project we have identified for our parish.

As you reflect on what your pledge should be, prayerfully keep in mind God's generosity to you. This year's theme, "One in Christ," reminds us that we are called communion as a diocesan family. He also invites us into his mission – to share our gifts to bring hope to others. Be assured that contributions to the DMA will be used only for the benefit of the ministries designated in the brochure and no other purpose. You can watch the DMA video or donate online at <https://www.dnu.orgdma>.



Please Remember in Prayer

Casey O'Brien

St. Francis de Sales

Arvina Schweiss

St. Andrew's

Elsie Linsmeier

St. Andrew

Mary Schweiss

St. Andrew's

Millie Forst

St. Willibrord's

Adeline Roiger

St. Andrew

Pat Fahey

St. Andrew's

Lyle Muth

St. Francis de Sales

George Schweiss

St. Willibrord's

Michelle Lindenfesler

(Schwecke)

St. Francis de Sales

Claire Van Epp

St. Andrew's

Ray Berg

St. Willibrord's

RoseMarie Garrahy

St. Andrew's

BAKESALE (YOUTH BENEFIT) will be held on Saturday, December 2nd, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the community center in downtown Gibbon, in conjunction with the annual *Santa Claus Day* activities. Donations of bake sale items will be very much needed and appreciated, as we have about **18** youth, plus several chaperones, from the three parishes in the AFC that wish to attend this year! Please contact Berny Berger (320-583-7975) by Wednesday, November 29th, to make arrangements to drop off bake sale items with someone in your church, or Brent Lang in Winthrop (612-418-2851). Please support our youth fundraising for the 2024 Steubenville Youth Conference!

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY This is a winter weather reminder that if law enforcement announces a no travel advisory, or if school is cancelled or has a late start in your school district, there will be NO mass in your town that day. Also, if school is let out early due to weather, there will be no parish activity or Religious Education Class that evening. Please be sure to sign up for “Flocknote” by texting allsaints4 to 84576 to get text updates from parish staff and listen to the following station for weather related announcements: KNUJ (860 AM) in New Ulm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wednesday Nov 22, 2023: No Class – Thanksgiving

Wednesday Nov 29, 2023: Class – Student Reconciliation – Fairfax Grades 3-9

Wednesday Dec 6, 2023: Class – Student Reconciliation Gibbon Grades 8-11

Wednesday Dec 13, 2023: Class – Student Reconciliation Gibbon Grades 3-7

Wednesday Dec 20, 2023: No Class – Christmas Break

Wednesday Dec 27, 2023: No Class – Christmas Break

ALL SAINTS YOUTH GROUP 9-12TH Every 1st Sunday of each month we will meet with unique activities listed monthly! Come to the Gibbon Parsonage next to the church from noon to 1:00 for pizza and fun in Christ. Bring your own pop or juice.

STEUBENVILLE CONFERENCE UPDATE – If anyone would like to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference next July 12-14, in Rochester, MN, please contact Berny Berger (jibberger1972@gmail.com or 320-583-7975) soon! We are doing early registrations (saving on cost) by November 27th and have our first fundraiser, a bake-sale at Gibbon’s Santa Days, on December 2nd. This fundraiser is important to cover the \$50 registration downpayment needed by early December. Please contact Berny for more information and details on cost, and return your parent permission forms by November 15th. Thanks!

WEEKLY OFFERING

	St. Andrew’s	St. Francis’s	St. Willibrord’s
Adult	2,638.00	1,336.00	393.00
Loose/Youth Plate	69.00	118.00	92.00
Building/Maint/Furnace		5.00	145.00
Fuel	330.00		
Steeple Donation	100.00		
Memorial/Donation	585.50		
Fall Collection	750.00		
Hall Rent		150.00	
TOTAL	\$4,472.50	\$1,609.00	\$630.00

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Please continue to pray for the following military personnel who are members of our parish families and are serving full time or active duty in the military: MSG William R. Schmidt, SSG Jeff Ziegler, Ryan E Lawrenz, SGT, Sgt. Chris Levinske, Amber Lindberg, SFC Timothy R. Green, Spc Adam Nosbush, Lt. Col. Steven Weber, Jackie Rieke and SGT Colin Jackson, CSM Rebecca (Zitzmann) Booker

ST. WILLIBRORD’S – GIBBON

Saturday, **November 25th**-5:00 PM

Lector: Alan Neyers **Dist:** Jerome Petersen **Servers:** Christopher Ruiz, Gabriel Ruiz, Regie Mattes **Ushers:** Ron Bastian, Joey Bastian, Jim Dingles **Gifts:** Roger & Karen Holm **Sacristan:** Rose Forst

Saturday, **December 2nd**-5:00 PM

Lector: Gail Herschman **Dist:** Genny Neyers **Servers:** Silvana Ruiz, Josse Ruiz **Ushers:** Joel Wiltscheck, Clete Krzmarzick, Tom Forstner **Gifts:** Steve & Gail Herschman **Sacristan:** Charlene Forst

Saturday, **December 9th**-5:00 PM

Lector: Melvin Neyers/Regie Mattes **Dist:** Mavis Lindmeyer **Servers:** : Sofia & Ella Nachreiner **Ushers:** Joel Wiltscheck, Clete Krzmarzick, Tom Forstner **Gifts:** Jay & Sandra Howe **Sacristan:** Connie Tautges

ADULT CHOIR will sing for the 5 p.m. Mass for the Feast of Christ the King, on Saturday, November 25th. We will meet to practice at 4:30 p.m. New members are especially welcome!

LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED after Saturday’s mass, November 18th. Donations will go to the Sibley County Food Shelf. Everyone is welcome.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH that helped in making the 2023 Fall Bazaar a success. Thank you to all the chair people for your work before, during and after the event. To all those who donated to the Bake Sale, Raffle of the Day and those who donated or prepared food. A special thanks to all the workers who donated their time, the bazaar was a success because of you. A special thank you to Charlene Forst for making and donating the beautiful quilt for the large raffle, your talent and donation are very much appreciated.

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS! Seven Sisters Apostolate has a mission to pray for individual priests in small groups of only seven. We are starting a group at All Saints AFC to offer Holy Hours for Fr. Rolling. All we need is seven women to get this started. Let's bless Fr. Rolling with a Holy Hour everyday! It is a blessing for the priest and the intercessor! Want to learn more? Contact: Kellie Sloom - 320-583-6755

GIBBON'S CHRISTMAS TREE EXTRAVAGANZA – Come and start the Christmas season with a day of friendship, treats and fun! Vote for your favorite tree (hint.. there is a St. Willibrord's tree), out of 24 themed trees. It will be a walk through event at the Gibbon Community Center on November 18th, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and November 19th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family, and one canned good per person (donated to the food shelf). Free cupcakes, cookies, candy and more, and free gifts. Come and enjoy!

SANTAS HELPERS OF SIBLEY COUNTY This is the 8th year for the non-profit program to rely on the help from the community, churches, and businesses to provide donations of gifts for the struggling families and veterans of Sibley County, Make their holidays more enjoyable. NEW unwrapped gifts can be brought to the church, or Minnwest Bank, Ogren Ins., D's , Gbbon Lumber or Code 3. Monetary donations can also be left in the can provided or mailed directly to SCSH, P.O Box 276, Henderson, MN.56044. We will collect until December 5th . Items needed for 1-3 year old boys and girls, 8-12 boys and girls, 13-18 boys and girls. Books, puzzles . games, stuffed animals, mittens, gloves and hats, etc or email santashelpersibleycounty@gmail.com

SIBLEY COUNTY FOOD SHARE MONTH: November is the time of year our local County Food Share program needs our help with donations of non-perishable food items (ex: tuna, chicken, ham, stew, chili, vegetable, etc) baking items, soups, pasta, papers supplies, cleaning and laundry soaps, toiletries and monetary donations. A box is provided in the back of church. Monetary donations can be put in an envelope marked "Food Share" {checks can be made out to Sibley County Food share}. The county food share gives families and individuals in need an opportunity to shop once a month as well as access to other support services. Any questions, call 829.4416. Go to http://sibleycountyfoodshare.org/donate_healthy_foods.aspx. Thank you for your support and prayers helping neighbors.

FRIENDS OF SAN LUCAS: support our friends of the San Lucas Mission in Guatemala with your monetary gifts, or thru active missionary work or thru the purchase of the products in varieties of coffee. These new varieties of coffee are available at St. Willibrord's church (table in the entry) or Chuck Spaeth Ford in New Ulm and Sleepy Eye or order directly from juanacoffee.org . Take home coffee for yourself or give to a friend. The coffee sales alone support 150 families in the mission with housing, and a quality lifestyle. STOP and take a look at the quarterly Newsletters available or lookup online sanlucasmision.org. Monetary donations can be sent to: Friends of San Lucas, 3459 Washington Dr., #207, Egan, Mn. 55122

ST. WILLIBRORD'S CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL MATCHING GRANT FUNDRAISER: Before and after Masses starting in September through December 16, 2023, 50-week raffle tickets will be sold for a donation of \$50.00 for chances to win **\$100.00, \$200.00 or \$500.00. Drawing will be held January 7, 2024. Proceeds will be used for educational and various church sponsored activities. Thank you for your support.**

STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING – ST. WILLIBRORD'S CHURCH

Fiscal Year July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Giving July 1st, 2023-November 15th, 2023

Income \$ 48,920.33 (Do Not Have Fall Festival Income Yet)

Expenses \$ 44,054.34

Net Gain/Loss \$ 4,865.99

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES – WINTHROP

Sunday, **November 26th**-8:00 AM

Lectors: Bob & Laurie Kaukola **Eucharistic Ministers:** Pete Machaiek **Servers:** Will Lang, Quinn Schmidt, Claire Schmidt

Gifts: Bill & Che May **Ushers:** Joel & Lynn Majeski, Harry & Kellie Sloom **Money Counters** Lynn Majeski, Celeste Witucki

Sacristan: Dave & Lorie Schauer

Sunday, **December 3rd**-8:00 AM

Lectors: Barb Pagel **Eucharistic Ministers:** Che May **Servers:** Lincoln McCue, Emilee Krueger, Blaise Krueger **Gifts:** Gary &

Mary Renner **Ushers:** Bill & Che May, Gary & Vicki Neid **Money Counters** Gary Neid, Bill May **Sacristan:** Michelle Oswald

Sunday, **December 10th**-8:00 AM

Lectors: Dave Schauer **Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Renner **Servers:** Riley Hacker, Megan Hacker, Volunteer **Gifts:** Mary

Nelson, Joe Wersal **Ushers:** Bill & Che May, Gary & Vicki Neid **Money Counters** Gary Neid, Bill May **Sacristan:** Michelle

Oswald

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE! We will continue with coffee and treats after 8:00 am Sunday morning masses throughout November and December. There will be a signup sheet in the kitchen for you to take a turn serving coffee and treats. This is such a **WONDERFUL** social gathering every Sunday! Thank you!

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER will be held at the St. Francis Church in Winthrop on Thursday, November 23rd. We will be serving from 11:00 am til 1:00 pm. The dinner is for people who do not want to spend Thanksgiving alone. Reservations welcomed but not necessary. You can call Bill or Che May at 507-647-2238 or Ted or June Oman at 507-647-5771. Please leave a message and include your name, phone number and number of meals needed. Free will offering will be accepted for Santa's Helpers.

IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS! Seven Sisters Apostolate has a mission to pray for individual priests in small groups of only seven. We are starting a group at All Saints AFC to offer Holy Hours for Fr. Rolling. All we need is seven women to get this started. Let's bless Fr. Rolling with a Holy Hour everyday! It is a blessing for the priest and the intercessor! Want to learn more? Contact: Kellie Slood - 320-583-6755

NEIGHBORS SERVING NEIGHBORS TO ELIMINATE HUNGER. The Sibley County FoodShare is a non-profit organization committed to providing a source of food and other necessities to the citizens of our county during times of need. During the month of November, there will be a donation box available at St. Francis. Sibley County FoodShare strives to provide a positive experience to create a hunger-free county. No donation is too small. To read a list of needed items, you may go to http://sibleycountyfoodshare.org/donate_healthy_foods.aspx Otherwise, whatever you like to donate is VERY much appreciated Thank you!

ST. WILLIBRORD'S CUF CALENDAR RAFFLE TICKETS will be available after mass from Mike Rein. Thanks.

ST. ANDREW'S – FAIRFAX

Sunday, **November 26th**-10:00 AM

Lector: Pat Buboltz **Dist:** Desiree Ziegler **Servers:** Luke & William Bastian, Kaden Weir **Ushers:** Ron Marlowe, Tom Palmer, Paul Simonsen, Gerald Jandl **Gifts:** Mark & Sandy Schaefer **Sacristan:** Agnes Wendinger

Sunday, **December 3rd**-10:00 AM

Lector: Jan Simonsen **Dist:** Karen Bastian **Servers:** Zach Sandgren, Nico Nosbush, Bernardo Davila **Ushers:** Myron Schweiss, Jerry Pelzel, Tom P Borth, Joe Nachreiner **Gifts:** Tim & Angela Sandgren **Sacristan:** Chuck Marlowe, Carol Gregory

Sunday, **December 10th**-10:00 AM

Lector: Cindy Rieke **Dist:** LeRoy Schweiss **Servers:** Kellen & Sylvia Nachreiner, Keyden Buboltz **Ushers:** John Rieke, Brian Marquardt, LeRoy Schweiss, John Case **Gifts:** Steve & Sheila Schroeder **Sacristan:** Brenda Runck, Brenda Frank

ST ANDREW'S WILL HOST A WELCOME LUNCH for Fr. Rolling on November 19th following our 10:00 mass. Please come and join us!

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS ARE NEEDED for Meals on Wheels during December. Please call Barb Freitag at 507-426-7759 if you can help. Please leave a message.

FAIRFAX BLOODMOBILE Tuesday, November 28th, from 12:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Fairfax Community Center. This Holiday season give the greatest gift you could ever give. Please donate blood. For appointments go to Redcrossblood.org or call Barb Freitag at 426-7759 (please leave a messsge).

SANTA'S CLOSET UPDATE FOR 2023 We are planning to return to a store shopping experience at our site in the Danube school. Each family who has been accepted will be assigned an appointment time through Lori Clasemann, Circle Bank. All monetary donations can be sent to: Santa's Close, PO Box 115, Olivia MN 56277. Email: danubeelf.nancy@gmail.com. All donations are accepted. Drop off Sites are All Renville County Banks, Danube School & H & L Printing in Olivia.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE St. Andrew's Thanksgiving Food Drive for Renville County will be November 1st – 30th. We all have been blessed in so many ways, please share with other in need. There will be boxes at each entrance of the church for your non-perishable donations. Cash donations can be dropped in collection basket, please mark "Food Shelf Donation". Thanks so much for your generosity. Any questions, call Agnes Wendinger at 426-7675 or Sandy Hellendrung at 426-7480.

ST. ANN'S FUNERAL GROUP 5: Jolene Fahey, Colleen Schweiss

STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING – ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Fiscal Year July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Giving July 1st, 2023 – November 15th, 2023

Income	\$	71,982.41
Expenses	\$	71,727.06
Net Gain/Loss	\$	255.35

THE COLUMBARIUM, A STRUCTURE TO HOLD FUNERAL URNS, was successfully completed at the St. Andrew's Cemetery this fall. Each of the 48 boxes can hold the remains of two people. The memorial and shaded bench area are available to the public for prayer thanks the generosity of Fr. John "Jack" H. Brunner, St. Andrew's priest from 1991 to 2002. The granite was crafted by Murphy Granite of Cold Springs, MN, and installed by Black Construction. The ground is seeded and more landscaping is planned for next year. A dedication service will be held in the spring. Thank you St. Andrew's Cemetery Committee led by Chuck Hellendrung with Cindy Rieke, Charles Marlowe, Mike Vait, Agnes Wendinger, and Kevin Roiger for your leadership in this project and for your care for our beloved dead. Grant them eternal rest.



HISPANIC COMMUNITY

ENGLISH:

Dear Community: I invite you to pray this week for the women in our families, whose vocation as mothers allows us to experience the love and tenderness of God the Father. May the readings of this Sunday serve as inspiration to delve deeper into the unique calling that God extends to each woman:

Heavenly Father, who distributes talents and gifts according to Your will, we pray for the women in our family: we implore that each day they become more diligent like the woman in the First Reading; that they show compassion towards the poor and the forsaken. May their reverent fear of Your holy name strengthen, and guided by Your light, may they always follow Your paths. We ask for Your grace for those women longing to be mothers and facing the anguish of infertility. Grant them Your mercy and fill their lives with the joy of motherhood. For all of us, we seek Your guidance to stay vigilant and live with moderation, preparing ourselves for the glorious coming of Christ, our Savior. Remain with us, Lord, so that we may yield abundant fruit with the gifts You have entrusted to us. Enable us to use them with Your grace and blessing, overcoming any fear that hinders our actions. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, who invites us to share in His joy. Amen

SPANISH:

Querida Comunidad: Los invito a orar esta semana por las mujeres de nuestras familias, cuya vocación como madres nos permite experimentar el amor y la ternura de Dios Padre. Que las Lecturas de este Domingo sirvan de inspiración para ahondar en el llamado único que Dios hace a cada mujer:

“Amado Padre Celestial, tú que repartes a todos talentos y carismas según tu voluntad, te pedimos por las mujeres de nuestra familia: te imploramos que cada día sean más hacendosas como la mujer de la Primera Lectura; que sean compasivas con los pobres y desamparados. Que su temor reverente hacia tu santo nombre se fortalezca y que, guiadas por tu luz, sigan siempre tus senderos. Te pedimos por aquellas mujeres que anhelan ser madres y se enfrentan a la angustia de la infertilidad. Concede tu misericordia, y colma sus vidas con la alegría de la maternidad. Para todos nosotros, pedimos tu guía para mantenernos alerta y vivir con moderación, preparándonos así para la venida gloriosa de Cristo, nuestro Salvador. Permanece con nosotros, Señor, para que podamos dar frutos abundantes con los dones que nos has confiado. Permítenos usarlos con tu gracia y bendición, venciendo cualquier miedo que nos impida actuar. Todo esto te lo pedimos por Jesucristo, quien nos invita a compartir en su alegría. Amén.

Anisabel Palma
apalma@dnu.org



Anisabel Palma

Director of Hispanic Ministry
 (507) 233-5360 apalma@dnu.org
 (507) 359-2966 www.dnu.org
 DIOCESE OF NEW ULM

1421 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073-2071

**Ministerio Hispano de la
 Diócesis de New Ulm**

**SEAMOS
 AMIGOS EN
 FACEBOOK!**

Simplemente escanea este código
 con tu telefono. ¡Gracias!

Raffle of the Day Winners
St. Willibrords Fall Bazaar 2023

Sled	Joanne Seeman
Pillow	Delores Kokesch
Christmas Center Piece	Lisa Taralseth
Cutting Board/Knife	Delores Kokesch
Mary Kay Set	Barb Nelson
Stuffed Penguin	Rhonda Goblirsch
Corn Cutter Towel	Kathy Lindsmeir
Lego Set	Sharon Briese
Christmas Blanket	Karen Spaude
Speaker/Clock	Bonnie Hartmann
Mailbox Cover	Bernadette Schneider
Wreath	Fran Meyer
Necklace	Jan Forst
Table Runner/Christmas Centerpiece	Tara Van Maasdam
Water Bottle	Barb Nelson
Wreath	Bernadette Schneider
Scentsy Warmer	Connie Schaufler
Bird Feeder & Seed	Diane Isakson
Dish Towels/Wash Cloth	Maria Neyers
Baby Blanket	Rhonda Goblirsch
Little People Truck Set	Betty Grewe
Stamping Kit	Madison Nilges
Wreath	Fran Meyer
Soup Mugs & Rug	Chris Unger
Framed Art Print	Jan Forst
Mug Cup & Book	Kathy Nelson

During my years as a bloodmobile coordinator, I have written several stories about blood donations from both sides, donor and recipient. You may remember "Heart-to-Heart" or "The White Board".

It's time I write again.

This is a personal story and has taken me over 6 years to write.

Somehow, now is the perfect time.

Fairfax seldom has a bloodmobile between Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year we do.

Short Version of Maddison's Story

In October of 2016, The Freitag family got some devastating news. It was found by ultrasound that our unborn great-grand-daughter had congenital heart disease.

That Holiday Season was a tough one.

At one point, Maddison's parents were told to go home and start making her final arrangements. *Final arrangements for a baby girl they hadn't met yet!* The doctors were afraid she would be still born. Her birth might be too much for her heart to handle. Tony, Maddison's dad, and I did go to the cemetery to pick out her final resting place. He couldn't do it. He said, "That would be like giving up on her before she had a chance".

Abortion was never an option. Days were filled with lots of worry, lots of tears, lots of "what ifs" and **lots of prayer.**

Heather, Maddison's mom, did a wonderful job through all the heartache. She did everything she could to give Maddison the best chance possible at life. Maddison was born January 18, 2017 at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. She was full term and she was alive.

She was our "Christmas miracle in January".

At 6 days old, Maddison had her first open heart surgery. She went on to have a total of 4 open heart surgeries in her first 2 years of life. She has Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, among other things. Her heart and other organs are in the wrong places.

With those surgeries came a total of 10 blood transfusions. Even with all the medical technologies, Maddison needed the life saving gift of blood to carry her through, to keep her alive.

Maddison is in first grade now. She is as spunky and spirited as any other 6 year old. Maddison will tell you that God gave her a "special heart". She is a member of the "zipper club" and has the scars to prove it.

If she considers you a friend, without hesitation her famous words "I love you" will come flying at you. Those who know Maddison know exactly what I mean. (It really isn't fair. She will look up at me and say "Grandma, I love you", right after she does something naughty.)

No one likes to be stuck with a needle. Please know this; a blood donation is called "The gift of life" for a reason. Be it a baby's life, an accident or burn victim's life, a transplant or cancer patient's life or maybe your own life, blood has to be there when it's needed.

This Christmas Season, let's pray for *all* blood donors so they know how desperately they are needed. There is no substitute for blood. Even with all the medical miracles, blood can't be made in a lab. Life saving blood can only come from a donor.

This Thanksgiving, we can all be thankful for the blood donors *we have* in our area. Please pray for them as well.

Thank you, Barb Freitag